



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Parts 140, 143, and 146

46 CFR Parts 61 and 62

[USCG-2014-0063]

RIN 1625-AC16

Requirements for MODUs and Other Vessels Conducting Outer Continental Shelf Activities With Dynamic Positioning Systems - Comment Period Extension

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

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SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is extending for 90 days the comment period for the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled "Requirements for MODUs and Other Vessels Conducting Outer Continental Shelf Activities With Dynamic Positioning Systems" published on November 28, 2014. This extension is necessary to allow sufficient time for the Coast Guard to hold a public meeting and receive any subsequent public comments on the NPRM.

DATES: Comments and related material must either be submitted to our online docket via <http://www.regulations.gov> on or before **May 27, 2015** or reach the Docket Management Facility by that date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2014-0481 using any one of the following methods:

(1) Federal eRulemaking Portal:

<http://www.regulations.gov>.

(2) Fax: 202-493-2251.

(3) Mail: Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S.

Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(4) Hand delivery: Same as mail address above, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the "Public Participation and Request for Comments" portion of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice, call or e-mail LT Stephanie Waller, Human Element and Ship Design Division, Commandant (CG-ENG-1), Coast Guard; telephone 202-372-1374, e-mail [Stephanie.E.Waller@uscg.mil](mailto:Stephanie.E.Waller@uscg.mil), or fax 202-372-8380. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Ms. Cheryl Collins, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## I. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related materials. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov> and will include any personal information you have provided.

### A. Submitting comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking (USCG-2014-0063), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. We recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an e-mail address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and insert "USCG-2014-0063" in the "Search" box. Click on "Submit a Comment" in the "Actions" column. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached

the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may change this notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) based on your comments.

B. Viewing comments and documents

To view comments, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and insert "USCG-2014-0063" in the "Search" box. Click "Search." Click the "Open Docket Folder" in the "Actions" column. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. We have an agreement with the Department of Transportation to use the Docket Management Facility.

C. Privacy Act

Anyone can search the electronic form of comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review a Privacy Act notice regarding our public dockets in the January

17, 2008 issue of the Federal Register (73 FR 3316).

## II. Background and Purpose

The Coast Guard published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register on November 28, 2014 entitled, "Requirements for MODUs and Other Vessels Conducting Outer Continental Shelf Activities With Dynamic Positioning Systems" (79 FR 70943). The proposed rule would establish minimum design, operation, training, and manning standards for mobile offshore drilling units (MODUs) and other vessels using dynamic positioning systems to engage in Outer Continental Shelf activities. Establishing these minimum standards is necessary to improve the safety of people and property involved in such operations, and the protection of the environment in which they operate. The rule would decrease the risk of a loss of position by a dynamically-positioned MODU or other vessel that could result in a fire, explosion, or subsea spill, and support the Coast Guard's strategic goals of maritime safety and protection of natural resources.

In the NPRM, we stated our intention to hold a public meeting, and to publish a notice to announce the location and date of that meeting (79 FR 70944). In order to allow sufficient time for the Coast Guard to hold such a meeting and receive any subsequent public comments on the NPRM, we are extending the end of the public comment period from February 26,

2015 to **May 27, 2015.**

III. Authority

This notice is issued under the authority of 5 U.S.C.  
552(a).

Dated: 3 February 2015

J.G. LANTZ  
Director of Commercial  
Regulations and Standards,  
U.S. Coast Guard.

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